

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network having at least one radio access network, a core network, ~~a first interface connected between said access network and said core network,~~ and at least one terminal device,

wherein said core network comprises at least one gateway device, and at least one ~~access~~ network control device adapted to control said at least one gateway device by transmitting a control information to the gateway device,

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via a first interface,

wherein a second interface is connected between the ~~access~~-network control device and the gateway device, the control information being transmitted from the ~~access~~-network control device to the gateway device via said second interface; ~~and,~~

wherein said telecommunication network is adapted to route user data directly, without being transmitted through the ~~access~~-network control device, between said radio access network and said at least one gateway device via said first interface; and

wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

2. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said first interface is connected directly from said radio access network to said gateway device.

3. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is connected ~~via another access network control device~~ to said gateway device.

4. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is connected ~~via said radio access network and said first interface~~ to said gateway device.

5. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said user data comprises real-time data.

6. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 5, wherein said user data comprises speech, audio, and/or video data.

7. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 6, wherein said user data is transmitted using the RTP.

8. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is adapted to use the ISUP protocol.

9. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said second interface is adapted to use the MGCP protocol.

10. CANCEL.

11. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said user data is routed via a packet network.

12. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 11, wherein said packet network is an ATM network.

13. (Original) a telecommunication network according the claim 11, wherein said packet network is an IP network.

14. (Previously Presented) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said control information is transmitted via a TDM network.

15. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said control information is transmitted via a packet network.

16. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 15, wherein said packet network is an ATM network.

17. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 15, wherein said packet network is an IP network.

18. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said telecommunication network is a UMTS network.

19. (Currently Amended) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said ~~access network control unit~~ network control device is a Mobile Switching Center.

20. (Original) A telecommunication network according to claim 1, wherein said first interface is an Iu interface.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for routing user data via ~~an access~~ a radio access network to a gateway device of a core network ~~connected to said access network via a first interface~~, and further having at least one ~~access network~~ control device and a second interface connected between the ~~access network~~ control device and the gateway device, comprising the steps of:

[[a)] controlling said gateway device by transmitting control information from the ~~access network~~ device to said gateway device via a second interface; and

[[b)] routing said user data directly, without being transmitted through the ~~access network~~ control device, between said radio access network and said gateway device via ~~said first~~ a first interface

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via the first interface, and

wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

22. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein said control information is supplied ~~from~~ via said second interface to said radio access network, and subsequently the control information is supplied together with said user data, via said first interface, ~~together with said user data~~ to said gateway device.

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 21, wherein said control information is supplied ~~from said interface~~ via ~~an access network~~ a network control device.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 21, wherein the ISUP protocol is used in said second interface.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 21, wherein the MGCP protocol is used in said second interface.

26. (Original) a method according to claim 21, wherein said first interface is an Iu interface.

27. (Currently Amended) A gateway device for use with a telecommunication network having at least one radio access ~~access~~ network, ~~a core network connected to said access network via a first interface~~, and at least one terminal device,

[[a]] wherein said gateway device is adapted to receive control information from the core network via a second interface; and

[[b]] wherein said gateway device is adapted to receive user data directly from said radio access ~~access~~ network via ~~said first~~ a first interface without being transmitted through the core network,

wherein said radio access network is directly connected to the gateway device via the first interface, and

wherein the gateway device provides conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.

28. (Previously Presented) A gateway device according to claim 27, wherein the gateway device is adapted to provide conversion between audio signals carried on telephone circuits and data packets carried over the Internet or other packet networks.